

Early Actions Related to County Services

Category	Program/Action Name	Description	Short-Term Action Needed	Funding Status
Maintenance	Storm Water Pollution Prevention Practices (SWPPP's)	Prepare plan in accordance with federal stormwater regulations (National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System - Industrial Permits). The plan contains BMP's for limiting the potential for pollution of storm water. Implementation of the plans has reduced the amount of stormwater runoff exposed to potential pollution sources and improved sediment control.	In progress.	F
Maintenance	Stormwater and Groundwater Monitoring Plan, King County Roads Division Operations & Maintenance and Sand & Gravel Facilities	Monitor sites where SWPPP's are implemented. Water quality is monitored quarterly at stormwater discharge points and groundwater wells.	In progress.	F
Maintenance	King County Stormwater Management Program 1996-2000	Implement comprehensive approach to managing surface water. It provides details on current stormwater management practices and identifies implementation of improved practices which are still being developed. Partially fulfills NPDES requirements for Municipal Stormwater General Permit.	In progress.	F
Maintenance	Water Quality Monitoring Program	Implement a ditch sampling program to gather data on water quality concerns associated with ditches in addition to sampling and monitoring plans associated with SWPPP's, the Regional Vactor Waste Disposal Program and the Underground Storage Tank Removal Program.	In progress.	F
Maintenance	King County Road Standards	Provide standards for road widths, types, geometry and construction. There are also standards for ditch geometry, drainage design and other roadside features (i.e. light posts, retaining walls).	In progress.	F
Maintenance	Rebuilding Bioswales	Rebuild existing bioswales to improved standards	In progress.	F
Maintenance	Maintaining Bioswales	Improve the performance of bioswales by increased mowing frequency through a reduction in SWM fees for homeowners who will provide the mowing.	In progress.	F
Policies	ESA Compliance	Assure compliance of Division programs and projects with the requirements of the ESA and to assist in providing greater protection to salmon.	In progress.	F
Policies	Roads Standards	Reviewing and updating the Road Standards including a review for impacts on salmon.	In progress.	F
Funding	ESA Compliance Costs	Included in the 1999 Division budget for ESA mitigation for capital improvement projects is funding to cover costs associated with ESA compliance over and above the costs of compliance with the Sensitive Areas Ordinance. The current 1999 budget amount is \$517,000.	In progress.	F
Capital Improvements	Passage Barrier Removal	The purpose of the program is to remove fish passage barriers that are caused by roadway components such as culverts.	In progress.	F
Capital Improvements	Stream Improvements	Road Maintenance staff are evaluating current chinook spawning habitat in the Snoqualmie Valley, focusing on Tuck Creek. An interdisciplinary scientific team has been assembled to evaluate this stream and recommend habitat restoration measures. Other projects include: Harris Creek, Spring Creek, Tiger Mountain Road, Rock Creek	In progress.	F
Capital Improvements	Hydroseeder	An additional hydroseeder is being purchased to keep up with increased demand. The hydroseeder is integral to erosion and sediment control methods	In progress.	F

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Capital Improvements	Prioritization of Drainage Projects	Road Maintenance staff are in the process of integrating environmental factors into the current process for prioritization of Road Maintenance drainage projects.	In progress.	F
Research	Road Crossing Inventory	Staff will evaluate all areas where salmonid habitat intersects with County roads and County rights-of-way. Four major data collection efforts are being undertaken: ESA mapping of streams, wetlands and stream crossing culverts within the road rights-of-way; habitat assessment of critical habitat factors and other factors of decline; water quality sampling; and macroinvertebrate ("bugs") study.	In progress.	F
Research	Passage Barriers	The purpose of the program is to remove fish passage barriers that are caused by roadway components such as culverts.	Two fish passage projects have been accelerated for work on Carey Creek.	F

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RIVER MANAGEMENT				
Code/Policy Changes	KCFHRP (King County Flood Hazard Reduction Plan) Update	The KCFHRP update will provide recommendations to ensure that bank stabilization projects, facility repairs, and other flood hazard reduction activities protect public health and safety while furthering the conservation and recovery of listed species. The update will ensure consistency with federal and state mandates for protection of the species; the strategy for the update will be developed in conjunction with the Rivers Section programmatic review by the ESA panel, and Section 7 consultations with the NMFS and the USFWS.	Develop recommendations for the KCFHRP update. (target completion date = 12/31/00)	F
Code/Policy Changes	Retooling of the PL 84-99 Program	Over the past two years, Rivers section staff have worked successfully with Corps staff to redesignate as many PL 84-99 facilities as possible as revetments, which are eligible for FEMA funding for flood damage repairs and may be freely revegetated with native trees and shrubs. We recommend that the Corps conduct a Section 7 consultation with NMFS and USFWS concerning PL 84-99 vegetation management standards. As an interim measure, vegetation management standards should be relaxed to protect critical chinook salmon habitat. In addition, PL 84-99 policies and funding priorities should be redirected toward levee reconfiguration projects that allow ample volumes of riparian and LWD installation. Funding for property acquisition (currently not covered under PL 84-99) would have to be a key component of program retooling.	Recommend revisions to the PL 84-99 Program	N
Code/Policy Changes	Revisitation of the Boater Safety Guidelines	The Boater Safety Guidelines that Rivers Section staff must follow in compliance with the 1996 King County Hearings Examiner Order restrict the extensive use of LWD in restoring salmonid habitat in King County's large rivers. It appears that the only way to gain more latitude in the use of LWD is by issuing a new SEPA determination (either an MDNS or a DS), or by lobbying the King County Council to adopt an ordinance requiring that ESA requirements for salmonid habitat restoration be considered in context of recreation uses	Initiate review and revision process.	N
Code/Policy Changes	Channel Migration Hazard Mapping and Public Rule	The River's Section has been instrumental in mapping areas along major river systems that are subject to channel erosion and destabilization, channel incision and shifts in location of channel meander. Mapping studies identifying these areas have been prepared for the upper Green River, Tolt River, Raging River and three forks of the Snoqualmie River. Development regulations are strict and limiting within the severe areas, similar to the restrictions in mapped flood-ways.	The Public Rule is expected to be transmitted to the Executive and County Council this spring for review and public hearings. Regulations adopted via the Public Rule are expected to be integrated into the proposed amendments to the County Sensitive Areas Regulations later this year in September.	F

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Maintenance	Bank Stabilization Guidelines Update	The 1993 Guidelines for Bank Stabilization Projects redirected traditional erosion protection techniques toward design approaches that incorporate fish and wildlife habitat elements. The update of this document will more closely examine the effects of various bioengineering techniques to provide designers with a greater knowledge of techniques that can be used to maximize fish and wildlife of the project design.	The update will be scoped late in 1999 with a final revision of the document completed by the end of the year 2000.	F
Maintenance	River Facility Maintenance and Repair	The River's Section will continue to have funds available to do repairs and maintenance to damaged river protection facilities. Facility repairs will be prioritized based on KCFHRP policies, as amended to reflect ESA requirements. Repairs will be designed and constructed in accordance with the contemporary, fish friendly standards outlined earlier in this report; and as may be amended through changes to the Guidelines resulting from ESA mandates.	Ongoing.	F
Research	Forest Practices and Riverine Floodplain Management	Design a work program commitment over the next two years to more actively engage the subject of forest practice effects and relationships on floodplain management and natural resource protection programs (i.e., salmon recovery). The analysis of the rural stormwater fee proposal would provide a convenient nexus to initiate a more proactive program to make forest practices and forest land owners a more integral part of the County's overall salmon recovery plans and programs. A companion work program effort in the River's Program to advance some of the technical findings from previous studies should be proposed for funding in next year's budget.	Develop work program commitment to integrate forest practices and natural resource protection programs.	N
Monitoring	River Facilities Inventory	An inventory of King County river facilities is being compiled to describe the physical condition, structural worthiness, ecological and geomorphic conditions, and maintenance and legal history of the nearly 500 flood control facilities. In addition to other program applications, the facility inventory and report will serve as an adaptive management and monitoring tool to help guide Rivers Section toward compliance with ESA species recovery goals by identifying those facilities that could be modified or removed to improve instream and riparian habitats.	For 1999, about 100 facilities will be inventoried by end of June. Target Completion Date = 12/31/00.	F
Capital Improvement Projects	Green River Watershed Acquisitions	The Green River Flood Control Zone District has received approval to utilize Specific FEMA funds initially scheduled for facility repairs, for acquisition of flood prone lands. If all offers are accepted the District could purchase close to 50 acres in the Lower Green. These sites provide supplemental flood storage and opportunities for habitat enhancement project in the future.	Acquire parcels.	F
Capital Improvement Projects	Snohomish Watershed Acquisitions	The Rivers Section has procured FEMA funds to purchase a nine-acre parcel and home on the Raging River below Preston. The parcel contains a salmon-bearing stream and wetlands, along with over 700 feet of river frontage. Purchase is scheduled for early 1999. Once purchased, the property will be managed for open space.	Acquire parcels.	F

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